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## **Editorial: Time for some spring cleaning**

Tropical. That's how the temperature forecast for the next few days seem, especially after the never-ending, icy grip of winter finally shows signs of easing.

And while the season doesn't officially end for another few weeks, now would be the perfect time to get a head start on that spring cleaning you've been justifiably putting off. Your list of excuses grows ever shorter.

But, we're not just talking about sprucing up the forgotten corners of your dwelling by chasing a few dust bunnies around. The outside of your property should be a priority as well.

Say what you'd like about the city of Kokomo, the current administration is committed to downtown revitalization and beautification. It might seem silly to worry about details like these, but no one is going to be attracted to an urban center that doesn't at least give the impression it cares about its appearance. We shouldn't rely solely on the city to complete this task.

In addition to all the obvious chores, here's a short exterior spring cleaning checklist compiled by Sal Vaglicathis of This Old House magazine:

- Prune away dead and damaged branches.
- Cut back and divide perennials as needed.
- Clean up around your plants.
- Compost yard waste.
- Prep damaged lawn areas for spring seeding.
- Neaten up hardscape surfaces, including replacing things like gravel where needed.
- Patch or replace and paint worn wood.

Showing pride in your property encourages neighbors to show pride in theirs. Such a community shouts civic pride to visitors. Show your community spirit and help Kokomo bloom this spring.